

Amendments to the Specification

Page 1, after the title, please insert the following heading:

-FIELD OF THE INVENTION-

Page 1, please replace the first full paragraph beginning on line 1 and ending on line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

The invention relates to a method for the production of cast steel strip, wherein, in a continuous procedure, a steel melt is cast into a casting gap, the longitudinal sides of which are formed by walls that move during the casting process, to form the steel strip, and the steel melt, which is present above the casting gap in a melt pool, is held under an atmosphere containing nitrogen and hydrogen. ~~A method of this type is described, for example, in EP 0 409 645 B1.~~

Page 1, before the paragraph, which begins with “A fundamental problem in the production of steel strip cast” please insert the following heading:

-BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION-

Page 1, please replace the third paragraph which begins on line 21 and ends on page 2, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

~~The aforementioned~~ A method described in EP 0 409 645 B1 ~~proposes,~~ for improving the surface characteristics of cast strip[[,]] proposes forming dimples in the elements delimiting the casting gap in the device used for casting the strip, which elements move during the casting operation. In addition, a gas mixture is to be blown into the area of what is known as the “meniscus”, at which the melt enters into contact with the dimples in the moving elements. The gas mixture is to contain 30% by volume to 90% by volume of a gas soluble in metal. An insoluble gas may also be provided.

Page 3, before the paragraph, which begins with “The object of the invention was accordingly to specify a process” please insert the following heading:

-SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION-

Page 7, before the paragraph, which begins with “The invention will be described below in greater detail with reference to a drawing illustrating embodiments” please insert the following heading:

-BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURE-

Page 7, before the paragraph, which begins with “The twin-roller 1, which is configured in a manner known per se and is used” please insert the following heading:

-DESCRIPTION-